

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the present application. No claims have been cancelled. No claims have been amended. No new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-56 are presented for examination.

Office Action Status

In the present Office Action mailed February 23, 2004, the Office Action Summary portion indicated that the present Office Action was Non-Final. However, the Detailed Action portion indicated that the present Office Action was Final. To clarify the status of the present Office Action, the Examiner's Supervisor, Matthew Bella, was contacted. In a phone conversation on April 16, 2004, Supervisory Patent Examiner Matthew Bella, confirmed that the present Office Action is Non-Final. Applicant thanks the Examiner's Supervisor for the confirmation. Accordingly, Applicant is responding to the present Office Action as a Non-Final Office Action.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Cooper

Claims 1-56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Cooper et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,729,673 ("Cooper"). Applicant respectfully submits, however, that the present claims are not anticipated by Cooper.

Cooper is directed to a user interface for creating three-dimensional effects or manipulations of a projection surface relative to a display surface. The user interface includes a key frame time line that displays several key frame indicators. The key frames can be inserted by an editor, or provided in predetermined default positions along the key frame time line. To create an effect, a user selects a key frame to perform operations including positioning, rotating, cropping, or scaling the projection surface. Cropping of the key frame projection surface is performed manually by the user with a crop handle.

Independent claims 1, 15, 29 and 43 each include the limitation of storing autocrop (automatic cropping) data for each key frame of a sequence of images. Applicant respectfully submits that Cooper does not disclose this limitation. Cooper

discloses that a user manually crops a projection surface of a key frame by using a crop handle to adjust the portion of the image on the projection surface. Accordingly, Cooper's manual crop operation cannot be interpreted as equivalent to Applicant's claimed automatic cropping data.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully reminds the Examiner that the claims must be interpreted consistent with the specification. (MPEP §2173.05(a)). The claim term "key frame" is a well-known term of art in the field of film and video, and is defined as a frame of a film or video that contains significant video data. Applicant has used the term in the Specification consistently with its well-known meaning in the art.

Cooper's key frames cannot be properly interpreted to read on Applicant's key frames, since Cooper does not disclose that its key frames possess any of the attributes of a "key frame" as defined by Applicant. In contrast, Cooper's key frames designate three-dimensional positions along a motion path that the projection surface will take as the effect is displayed. Cooper does not disclose that a frame selected for cropping must be any of a first image of a sequence of images, an image which contains an active region outside of the prior image's active region, or an image which requires smoothing. Therefore, Cooper does not disclose a key frame or its equivalent as the term is used by the Applicant and as is commonly understood in the art.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 15, 29 and 43, and claims 2-14, 16-28, 30-42 and 44-56 that depend from them, are not anticipated by Cooper under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments and discussion set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome and the pending claims are in condition for allowance.


If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of the claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Scott Heilesen at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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